PATENT
450101-03634

2/44

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s)   :   Satoru Maeda, et al.

Serial No.   :   09/996,019

Filed   :   November 28, 2001

For   :   INFORMATION PROCESSING METHOD AND APPARATUS
                         AND RECORDING MEDIUM FOR SIMPLIFYING A SIGN-UP
                         OPERATION (AS AMENDED)

Examiner   :   Nguyen, Thanh T.

Art Unit   :   2144

745 Fifth Avenue
New York, NY 10151
Tel: 212-588-0800

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application.

☒   No additional fee is required.
☐   The fee has been calculated as shown below.
☐   This is an application of a small entity under 37 CFR 1.9(f), and the amounts shown in parentheses apply.

Claims as Amended

(1)	(2) Claims remaining after amendment	(3)	(4) Highest number previously paid for	(5) Present extra	(6) Rate	(7) Additional Fee
Total claims	20	Minus	** =20	* 0 x	$50 (25)	= $ 0
Independent claims	6	Minus	*** =6	* 0 x	$200 (100)	= $ 0
			Total additional fee for this amendment			$ 0

*   If the entry in Column 2 is less than the entry in Column 4, write "0" in Column 5.
**   If the highest number of total claims previously paid for is less than 20, write "20" in this space.
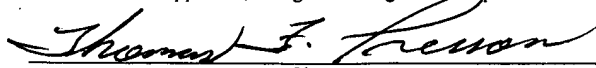***   If the highest number of independent claims previously paid for is less than 3, write "3" in this space.

☐   This application contains a multiple dependent claim. The required fee of $360(180) has been previously paid ☐, or is paid herewith ☐.

☐   This response is being filed within the _____ month following the expiration of the term originally set therefor. This is a petition to request a _____ month extension of time. A check covering the cost of the petition is enclosed.

☐   A check in the amount of $_____ is attached, which covers the cost of ☐ additional claims _____ petition for extension of time.

☐   Charge $_____ to Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

☒   Please charge any additional fees incurred by reason of this response or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: **Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**, on April 27, 2005.

Thomas F. Presson, Reg. No. 41,442

_____
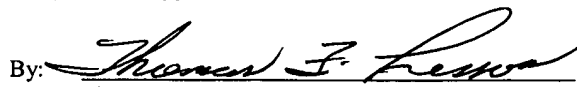Name of Applicant, Assignee or Registered Representative

_____
Signature

April 27, 2005
_____
Date of Signature

Respectfully submitted,

FROMMER LAWRENCE & HAUG LLP
Attorneys for Applicants

By: _____
Thomas F. Presson
Reg. No. 41,442
Tel: 212-588-0800

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
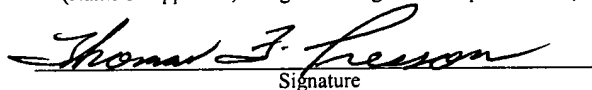
Applicants	:	Satoru Maeda, et al.
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Filed	:	November 28, 2001
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Art Unit	:	2144
Confirmation No.	:	2691

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New York, NY 10151
(212) 588-0800

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Thomas F. Presson, Reg. No. 41,442
(Name of Applicant, Assignee or Registered Representative)

Signature

April 27, 2005
Date of Signature

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.121

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed on February 9, 2005, having a three-month statutory period for response set to expire on May 9, 2005, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

00268378

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 3 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 4 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 12 of this paper.